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FLORIDA.

A Catalogue of a Collection of Plants made in East Florida during the months of October and November, 1821, by A. Ware. By Thomas Nuttall. (C.)

In Am. Journ. Sci. and Arts., 1 series, Vol. v. 1822.

List of the Plants growing spontaneously in the vicinity of Quincy, Fla. By A. W. Chapman, M.D. (A.)

In Western Journ. Med. and Surg., Vol. iii. (new series), 23 pp. Louisville, Ky., 1845.

List of the Marine Algae collected by Dr. Edward Palmer on the coast of Florida and at Nassau, Bahama Islands, March-August, 1874. By D. C. Eaton. (B.)
8vo., pamphlet, pp. 6. New Haven, 1875.

An enumeration of some Plants, chiefly from the semi-tropical regions of Florida, which are either new, or which have not hitherto been recorded as belonging to the Flora of the Southern States. By A. W. Chapman, M.D. (D.)

In Botan. Gazette, Vol. iii. Logansport, 1878.

Ferns of South Florida. (With notes on the species.) By A. P. Garber.

In Bot. Gazette, Vol. iii. Logansport, 1878.

W. R. G.

N. L. B.

The brittle Branches of *Salix sericea*, Marshall.—Has any one examined critically the "brittleness at the base" of the branches in this willow, of which our text-books tell us? It seems phenomenal, though akin to the articulation we find in *Ampelopsis*, *Taxodium*, *Thuja* and some others at the fall of the year. Here is a branch so tough that we may use it like twine, and which separates as easily, by a light tug, as we pull a feather from a bird! It is not really "brittle at the base," for the base must mean either exactly at the junction with the parent stem, or some indefinite point above. But the point of separation is a little above the true "base," and always just at this point, barely a hair's breadth in width; and the breakage is always in a true circle around the stem. It is evidently not a species of "brittleness" so much as a case of specific, incipient articulation.

THOMAS MEEHAN.

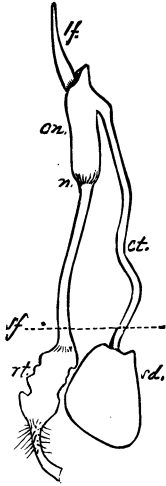
A Suggestion.—Errors in the description of plants occur here and there in our Manuals of Botany, owing for the most part, no doubt, to the tendency of some species to vary from the typical form. But it is surprising that there should be so great a discrepancy in the diagnosis of *Carex Novae-Angliae* and *C. Emmonsii* so far as the color of their spikelets is concerned. Both Wood and Gray state that the former has purplish spikelets and the latter green ones; whereas the reverse seems to be the rule. Out of a large number of specimens of *C. Novae-Angliae* received from the mountains of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts not one so much as suggests a purplish spikelet. On the other hand, *C. Emmonsii* always shows scales more or less purplish. Admitting

that the persistent style of the former is sufficient to distinguish it from the jointed style of the latter, is there not still good ground for suggesting a change in the description of these two species?

Yonkers, N. Y.

E. C. HOWE.

Germination of *Iris versicolor*.—The accompanying figure illustrates a peculiar mode of germination that I have observed this spring in *Iris versicolor*, the seeds of which I had planted in a flower-pot kept in a rather warm place in the house. The descriptions and figures of the germinating seed of *Iris* which I have seen thus far (cf. Gray, Structural Botany, p. 24, fig. 55) do not agree with my observations, for I do not find mentioned and illustrated in them the long, filamentous connective (*ct*) between the endosperm of the seed (*sd*) and what I must call the cotyledon (*cn*).



The whole process reminds one very much of the germination of *Phoenix dactylifera* (Sachs's Botany, Eng. edit., 1875, p. 542, fig. 388), but in the case of the *Iris* the connective is much longer in proportion, and rises, with the first node (*n*), and the first leaf (*lf*), from one-half to three-fourths of an inch above the surface (*sf*), while the seed (*sd*) stays behind under ground.

It would be worth while to ascertain whether this mode of germination is common with *Iris versicolor*, or whether, as I suppose, it is abnormal—caused perhaps by the more rapid growth at a higher temperature.

Hoboken, N. J., April, 1882.

JOSEPH SCHRENK.

New Station for *Corema Conradii*, Torr.—Learning that *Corema Conradii*, Torr, had been found on Shawangunk Mountain, Ulster Co., N. Y., I went there on the 2d of May to seek it. I found it growing on the crest of the ridge, in a bleak spot not sheltered by trees; quite plentiful there, but not seen elsewhere, for the two miles that I looked for it.

It is a low bush, much branched, spreading, almost prostrate, with erect branches, about 9 inches high, and 20 inches wide across the branches, from out to out.

It is described as dioecious or polygamous. I got 85 specimens, of which were dioecious, 84; monoecious, 1; polygamous, 0.

The monoecious specimen had 30 clusters of pistillate flowers, near the top, and one cluster of staminate near the base: total clusters on the specimen or branch, 31. I saw no other flower in bloom, on the mountain. I found a small form of *Asplenium montanum*, Willd., from one to one and a half inches high.

The day was cold, with a high wind and heavy squalls of snow and rain. In some sheltered places, last winter's ice was not all gone. The height of the ridge is about 1,800 feet above tide-water. It was too early for the regular spring flowers in so elevated and exposed a place. I was under the impression that the plant was